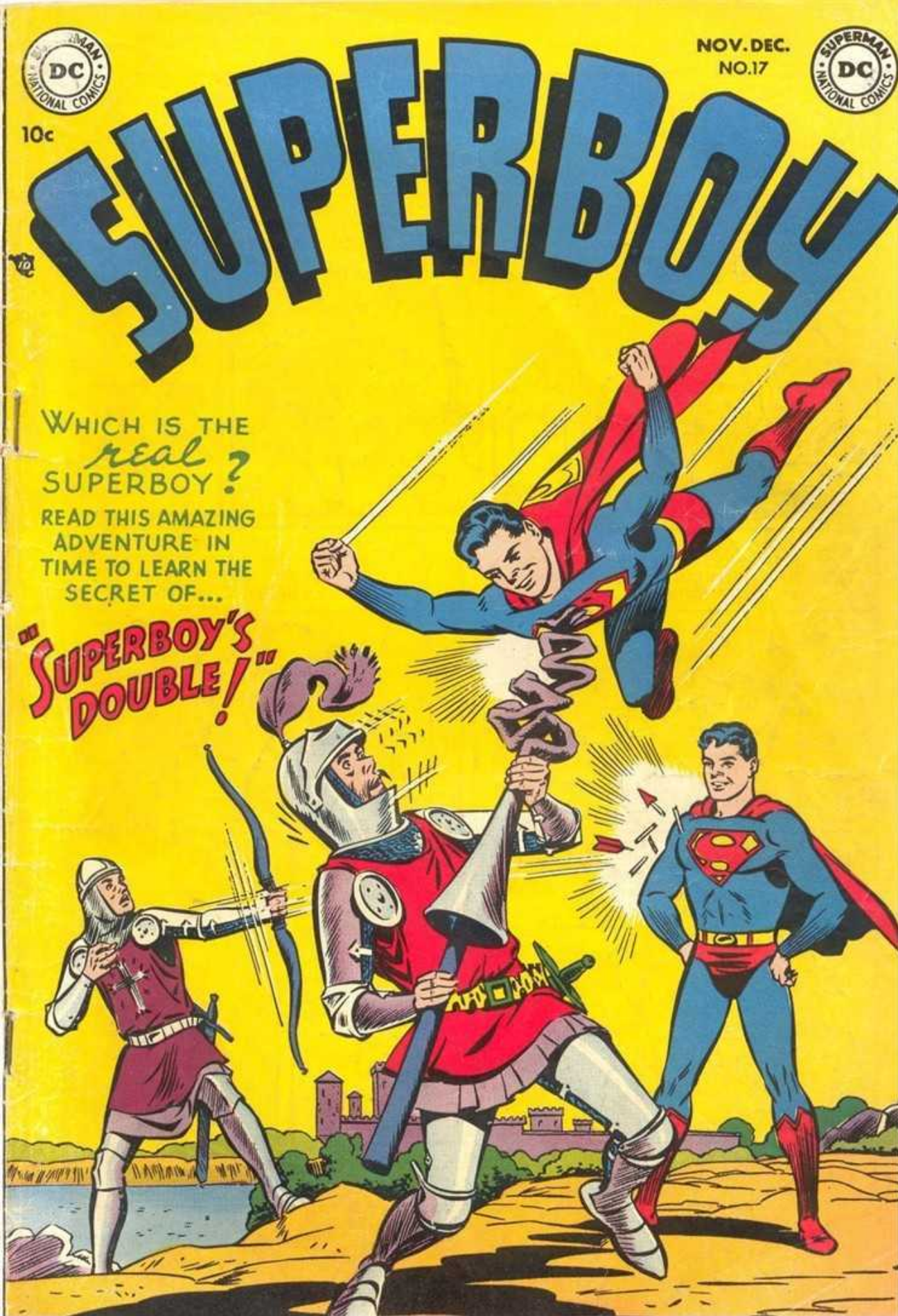
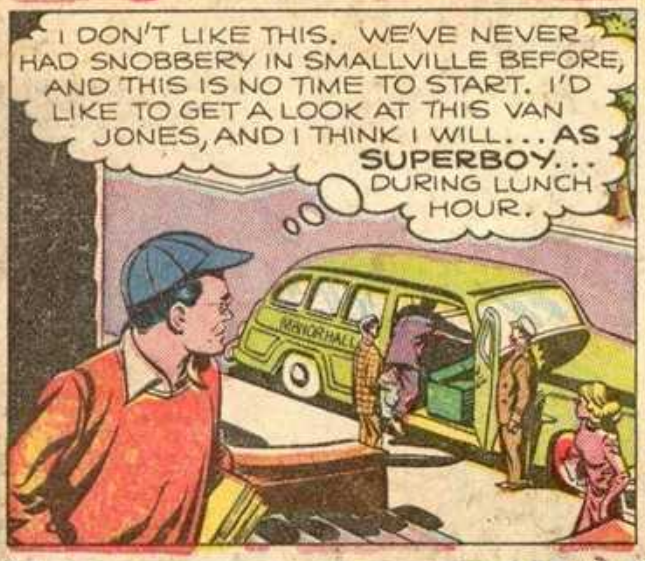
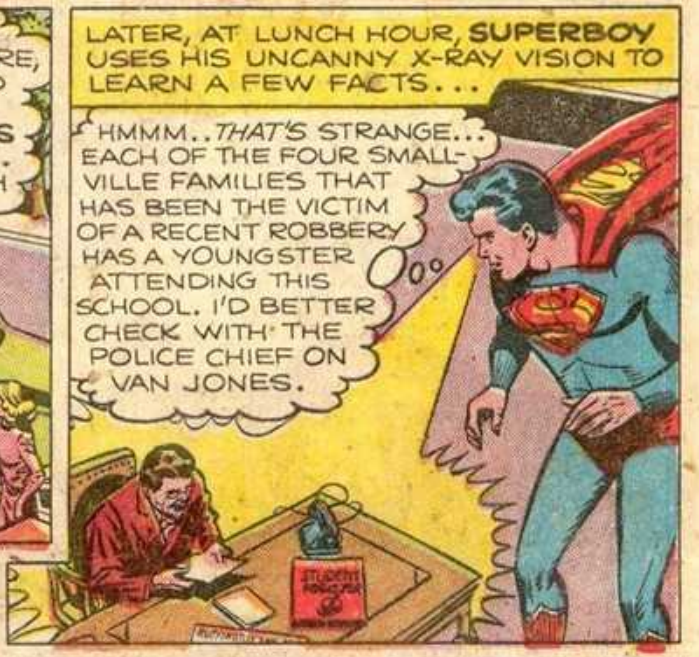

DC
NATIONAL COMICS
NOV. DEC.
NO. 17
SUPERMAN
10c
SUPERBOY
WHICH IS THE real SUPERBOY?
READ THIS AMAZING ADVENTURE IN TIME TO LEARN THE SECRET OF...
"SUPERBOY'S DOUBLE!"

SUPERBOY
The ADVENTURES of SUPERMAN WHEN HE WAS A BOY
THAT CLARK KENT KID IS GETTING IN MY HAIR. JUST TO MAKE SURE HE WOULDN'T BE SNOOPING AROUND, I GAVE HIM SIX HOURS OF HOMEWORK TO KEEP HIM BUSY.
IT ONLY KEPT SUPER-BOY BUSY FOR A LITTLE LESS THAN A MINUTE. NOW TO SEE IF I CAN FIND OUT WHAT'S REALLY GOING ON HERE!
DIRECTOR
WHY SHOULD MANOR HALL, AN EXCLUSIVE PRIVATE SCHOOL, WANT TO KEEP CLARK KENT OUT AS A STUDENT? AND, LIKEWISE.. WHY SHOULD CLARK KENT, W. IO LOVES SMALLVILLE HIGH, WANT TO GET IN? THE ANSWER LIES IN THE STRANGE SECRET WHICH ENABLED THAT TREACHEROUS TEACHER, RUFFINGTON VAN JONES, TO USE HIS CLASSROOM SO THAT HE COULD LEARN THE ART OF THE PERFECT CRIME! READ ABOUT THESE AMAZING LESSONS IN LARCENY WHEN SUPERBOY BECOMES—
"CLARK KENT...PROBLEM PUPIL!"

ONE MORNING, AS CLARK KENT, SECRETLY SUPERBOY, STARTS A NEW TERM AT SMALLVILLE HIGH...
HI, FRECKLES, I HEAR WE'RE IN THE SAME CLASS.
WE DEFINITELY AREN'T, KENT--IN SCHOOL OR OUT!

BRRR!--IT'S COLD OUTSIDE! WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH HIM?
HAVEN'T YOU HEARD, CLARK? RUFFINGTON VAN JONES, NEW HEAD OF MANOR HALL, HAS GIVEN PARTIAL SCHOLARSHIPS TO A LOT OF SMALLVILLE HIGH'S WEALTHIER KIDS.


I DON'T LIKE THIS. WE'VE NEVER HAD SNOBBERY IN SMALLVILLE BEFORE, AND THIS IS NO TIME TO START. I'D LIKE TO GET A LOOK AT THIS VAN JONES, AND I THINK I WILL... AS SUPERBOY... DURING LUNCH HOUR.
MANOR HALL


LATER, AT LUNCH HOUR, SUPERBOY USES HIS UNCANNY X-RAY VISION TO LEARN A FEW FACTS...
HMMM..THAT'S STRANGE... EACH OF THE FOUR SMALLVILLE FAMILIES THAT HAS BEEN THE VICTIM OF A RECENT ROBBERY HAS A YOUNGSTER ATTENDING THIS SCHOOL. I'D BETTER CHECK WITH THE POLICE CHIEF ON VAN JONES.

THAT AFTERNOON, AT SMALLVILLE POLICE HEADQUARTERS...
YOUR THEORY ABOUT VAN JONES INTERESTS ME, SUPERBOY. THE ROBBERIES WE'VE HAD STARTED WHEN HE ARRIVED IN TOWN. THEY STOPPED A WHILE... THEN RESUMED WHEN HE TOOK OVER AS HEAD OF MANOR HALL..
ONLY ONE WAY FOR ME TO VERIFY MY SUSPICIONS... AND THAT'S TO ENROLL IN MANOR HALL.. AS CLARK!
CHIEF OF POLICE
2

NEXT MORNING, A NEW ENTRANT APPLIES FOR ADMISSION TO MANOR HALL...
HMM.. CLARK KENT... I'VE HEARD HE'S A FRIEND OF SUPERBOY.. WELL, HE'S NOT GETTING INTO MY SCHOOL.
DELIGHTED TO SEE YOU, MASTER KENT. VERY WISE DECISION TO TRANSFER TO MANOR HALL.
RUFFINGTON VAN JONES DIRECTOR

I MUST WARN YOU, HOWEVER, THAT THE STANDARDS HERE ARE VERY HIGH. EXTREMELY EXPENSIVE TUITION AND...UM..AH... VERY STIFF ENTRANCE EXAM.
I'M PREPARED TO PAY... AND PASS THE TEST.
IF FATTY EDWARDS COULD PASS, I'M SURE SUPERBOY CAN MANAGE IT.
DON'T BE TOO SURE, CLARK!
WHEW! EVEN EINSTEIN COULDN'T PASS THIS! NOW I KNOW THERE'S SOMETHING STRANGE GOING ON HERE! HE MUST HAVE HEARD OF MY FRIENDSHIP WITH SUPERBOY. WELL, I'LL NEED ALL MY SUPERPOWERS FOR THIS PHONY EXAM! HMMM.... DRAW A DIAGRAM OF THE ATOMIC STRUCTURE OF COPPER-NICKEL ALLOY!
I'LL JUST HAVE TO SET UP A HOMEY LITTLE SUPER-LAB. A NICKEL AND A PENNY MELTED AND FUSED WITH THE HEAT OF MY X-RAY VISION PRODUCES THE ALLOY...
..AND NOW MY MICROSCOPIC VISION REVEALS THE STRUCTURE! NEXT QUESTION.... "EXACTLY HOW MANY FEET DEEP IS THE GRAND CANYON?" WHERE DID HE DIG THAT ONE UP?
THIS TIME I'LL USE TELESCOPIC VISION TO SEE---AH--JUST WHAT I WANTED--A PEBBLE BLOWING OVER THE EDGE!
NOW TO TIME IT, AND PICK UP THE SOUND WHEN IT HITS BOTTOM WITH MY SUPER-HEARING. WHEN I KNOW HOW LONG IT TAKES TO REACH BOTTOM, A SIMPLE FORMULA WILL TELL ME HOW FAR IT'S TRAVELED!
3

NEXT QUESTION. "WHAT'S THE LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE OF THE EASTERNMOST OF THE BALEARIC ISLES?" HOLY SMOKES--HOW SHOULD I KNOW--OR ANYONE ELSE FOR THAT MATTER? I'LL LOOK IN HIS OFFICE--MAYBE SOMETHING THERE WILL GIVE ME A CLUE.
SO THAT'S WHERE HE GOT THE QUESTIONS! HMMM.. IF I GET RID OF THAT BOOK, I CAN WRITE ANYTHING--BECAUSE HE WON'T KNOW THE ANSWERS EITHER! HE PROMISED TO GIVE ME THE RESULTS OF THE TEST IMMEDIATELY, AND HE'LL BE STUMPED WITHOUT THE BOOK!
COLLECTION OF ODD FACTS
STUMP THE EXPERTS WITH THESE
1928
A LITTLE LATER, CLARK HANDS IN HIS PAPER, AND...
I'LL MARK IT RIGHT NOW, AND LET YOU KNOW HOW YOU DID, KENT.
I GUESS YOU'LL GIVE ME THE RIGHT ANSWERS IF I GET ANY WRONG?
CERTAINLY, MY DEAR BOY. THAT'S WHAT ANY EDUCATOR WOULD DO.
A LITTLE PUFF OF SUPER-BREATH--AND GOOD-BYE BOOK!
TH-THAT BOOK! I...I'M LOST WITHOUT IT! WH-WHERE CAN IT BE?
YOU'D BE SURPRISED IF YOU KNEW, MR. VAN JONES!
SWOOOOSHHH!
HMMM...CAN'T AFFORD TO TAKE A CHANCE AND TELL HIM HE FAILED--BECAUSE I COULDN'T TELL HIM THE RIGHT ANSWERS AS I PROMISED TO, IF I DID. WHAT NOW?
WELL, MR. VAN JONES.. HOW DID I DO?
4

VERY..UM..SATISFACTORY RESULTS, KENT.. BUT I NEED HARDLY TELL YOU THERE ARE OTHER TESTS TO BE PASSED. I'LL ADMIT YOU TO CLASS TEMPORARILY, AND WE'LL SEE HOW YOU DO LATER ON.
FINE! I'LL DO MY BEST, SIR.
SO, CLARK FINALLY GETS TO CLASS WHERE A STRANGELY MYSTIFYING EPISODE OCCURS!
NOW, FOR GEOGRAPHY. CAN ANYONE TELL ME WHERE THE VAAL RIVER IS?
I...I THINK ASIA.
NO-- AFRICA!
I KNOW EXACTLY WHERE IT IS! IT'S IN THE PROVINCE OF GRIQUALAND, SOUTH AFRICA!
AH..UM..EXCELLENT, WESLEY PALMER! A PERFECT ANSWER! AND NOW..EXCUSE ME, CLASS, I HAVE AN..ER..IMPORTANT CALL TO MAKE.
AS VAN JONES CALLS, CLARK'S SUPER-HEARING PICKS UP A STRANGE MESSAGE...
YEAH, SNAPPER. I JUST GOT THE NECESSARY INFORMATION. OLD MAN PALMER HAS A FORTUNE IN DIAMONDS. OPENING THE SAFE WILL BE EASY-- BUT SEE THAT YOU WEIGH AN EXTRA TWENTY POUNDS WHEN YOU GO INTO HIS OFFICE.
WH-WHAT? HOW COULD THE ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION GIVE HIM THE TIP-OFF ON THAT JOB?
I'LL HAVE TO FIGURE THAT OUT LATER... BUT RIGHT NOW I'M GOING TO STOP THE ROBBERY!
LOOK! FRECKLES-- TELL MR. VAN JONES I HAVE TO...ER...PICK UP MY TRANSFER PAPERS FROM SMALLVILLE HIGH.
SURE, CLARK!
A QUICK SWITCH TO SUPERBOY, AND SOON...
HMM..DIAMONDS IN THE SAFE...JUST AS VAN JONES PREDICTED..BUT WHY SHOULD HIS PAL SNAPPER PUT ON AN EXTRA TWENTY POUNDS? MAYBE I'LL FIND OUT WHEN I GO IN!

AS SUPERBOY STEPS ON THE FLOOR...
NOW I GET IT! A SPECIAL ALARM RIGGED UP TO RING WHEN ANYONE WHOSE WEIGHT IS DIFFERENT FROM WILSON'S STEPS ON THE FLOOR! I'D BETTER JUMP UP QUICKLY BEFORE IT SCARES OFF VAN JONES' HENCHMEN!
RRRINGGG!

WHAMP!
THESE CROOKS WILL BE HERE ANY MINUTE, AND I DON'T WANT TO TAKE ANY ACTION AGAINST THEM TILL I PROVE VAN JONES' CONNECTION, SO I'LL JUST REACH IN AND TAKE THE DIAMONDS OUT.

ONLY A LITTLE LATER...
HMMPH! NO SPARKLERS! THAT'S THE FIRST TIME THE BOSS HAS SLIPPED UP!
WEIGHTS IN HIS POCKET TO MAKE HIM HEAVIER-- BUT HOW DID VAN JONES GET ALL THIS INFORMATION FROM WESLEY'S ANSWER? I'D BETTER RUSH BACK TO CLASS AND SEE WHAT I CAN FIND OUT!

PRESENTLY, BACK AT MANOR HALL...
KENT, NEXT TIME YOU LEAVE WITHOUT MY PERMISSION, YOU'LL BE EXPELLED! NOW I HAVE ANOTHER LITTLE TEST FOR YOU... OUTSIDE..IN HORSEMANSHIP! THE GROOM WILL GIVE YOU RIDING TOGS.

SOON...
YOU'LL HAVE TO STAY ON HIM FIVE MINUTES! PART OF OUR ATHLETIC REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW ENTRANTS.
WH-WHAT? ME STAY ON HIM? I...I'LL TRY.
6

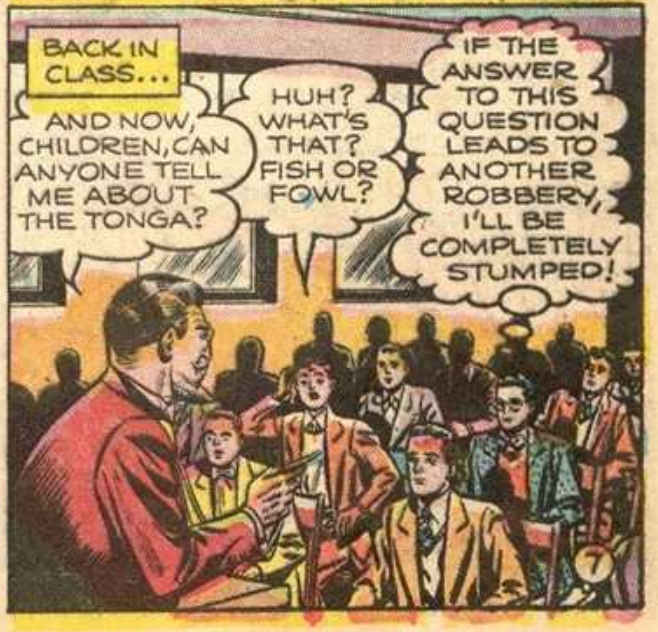
HE WON'T STAY ON THUNDERBACK TWO SECONDS! THAT WILD THOROUGHBRED COULD KILL A SEASONED RIDER!
THIS WOULD BE EASY FOR SUPERBOY-- BUT HOW WILL CLARK KENT MANAGE-- WITHOUT AROUSING SUSPICIONS?

I'M CLOCKING YOU, KENT. FOUR MINUTES AND FIFTY SECONDS TO GO.
HE'LL NEVER MAKE IT!
HAVE TO THINK OF SOMETHING FAST... AAH... THAT PIECE OF WIRE. I'LL BEND DOWN AND GET IT SO QUICKLY THEY DON'T SEE ME.

CLARK PICKS UP THE WIRE AND, MOMENTS LATER, THUNDERBACK UNDERGOES A STRANGE CHANGE OF ATTITUDE!
WH-WHAT? HE..HE'S TURNED GENTLE AS A SPRING BREEZE! FIRST TIME I'VE BEEN DOUBLE-CROSSED BY A HORSE!
WHEW! CLARK SURE IS LUCKY THAT NAG'S DISPOSITION CHANGED!

STRANDS OF WIRE PULLED SO THIN THEY'RE PRACTICALLY INVISIBLE... THEN SOLDERED TO THUNDERBACK'S METAL SHOES WITH THE HEAT OF MY X-RAY VISION! I CAN CONTROL THE MOVEMENT OF HIS FEET AS IF HE WERE A PUPPET!

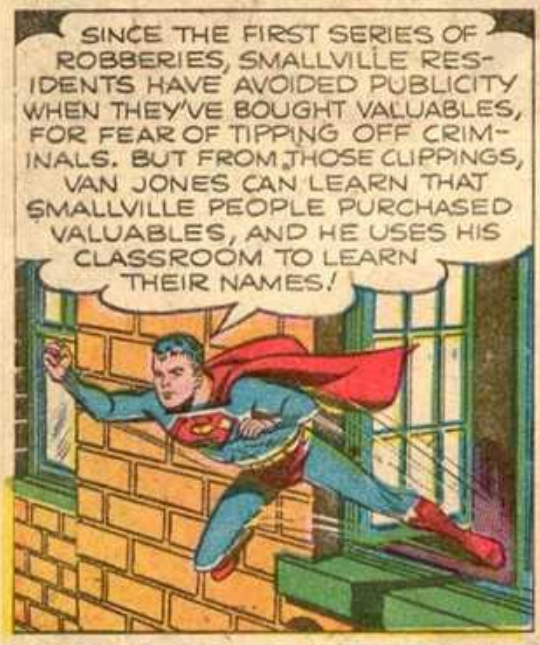
HMM..ER.. VERY GOOD, KENT. BACK TO CLASS, NOW.
SUPERBOY MUST BE TRYING TO FIND SOMETHING OUT ABOUT ME THROUGH HIM. I'LL GET RID OF HIM AS SOON AS I HAVE AN EXCUSE.
A STRANGE TEACHER, MR. VAN JONES. I HOPE I LEARN SOMETHING ABOUT HIS TECHNIQUE THIS TIME.

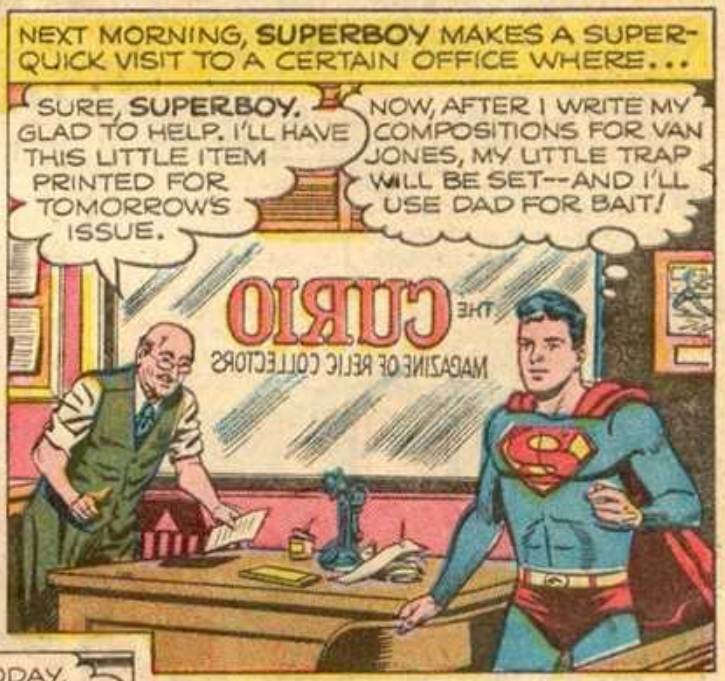

BACK IN CLASS...
AND NOW, CHILDREN, CAN ANYONE TELL ME ABOUT THE TONGA?
HUH? WHAT'S THAT? FISH OR FOWL?
IF THE ANSWER TO THIS QUESTION LEADS TO ANOTHER ROBBERY, I'LL BE COMPLETELY STUMPED!

I KNOW! THEY'RE A PRIMITIVE TAHITIAN TRIBE!
PERFECT ANSWER! AND NOW..I MUST LEAVE FOR A MOMENT! EXCUSE ME, CLASS.
WH-WHAT? WAS MY HUNCH RIGHT?
SURE ENOUGH, CLARK'S SUSPICION IS CORRECT!
THERE'LL BE NO SLIP-UP THIS TIME, SNAPPER. I HAVE DEFINITE KNOWLEDGE THERE'S A PAINTING WORTH THOUSANDS BURIED OUTSIDE RIPLEY'S GARAGE.
WH-WHAT? THIS JUST DOESN'T MAKE SENSE. WHAT KIND OF RACKET IS HE WORKING?
HMM... IF I LEAVE THIS TIME, VAN JONES IS SURE TO EXPEL ME--AND YET, I CAN'T LET THAT ROBBERY PROCEED UNHINDERED! I'LL HAVE TO THINK OF SOME EXPLANATION FOR MY ABSENCE WHILE STOPPING THOSE CROOKS!
OUTSIDE, CLARK SWITCHES TO THE BOY OF STEEL, AND SOON...
AGAIN--EXACTLY AS HE PREDICTED! AN ORIGINAL PAINTING BY THE FAMOUS ARTIST, GAUGIN! I STILL DON'T WANT THEM TO THINK SUPERBOY'S GUMMING UP THEIR PLANS, SO....
...THIS IMPACT WILL PACK THE EARTH TIGHT SO THAT IT'S STRONG AS CONCRETE! WHEN THEY TRY TO DIG UP THE PAINTING, THEIR SHOVEL WON'T BE ABLE TO PENETRATE EVEN A HALF INCH!
SMASHHHH!
AND IN ANOTHER PART OF THE WORLD, WHERE A NEW WORKER IS ASSIGNED TO THE INDIAN OBSERVATORY...
I..I'VE JUST DETECTED A STRONG SEISMOLOGICAL DISTURBANCE IN AMERICA! LOOK!

IS IT AN EARTHQUAKE, DO YOU THINK?
HMM.. JUST AS I SUSPECTED.. THE CENTER OF THE DISTURBANCE IS IN SMALLVILLE! THAT'S NO EARTHQUAKE-- IT'S SUPERBOY! YOU'LL GET USED TO STRANGE READINGS FROM HIS HOME TOWN!
AND, WHEN THE CROOKS ARRIVE AT RIPLEY'S GARAGE...
WHEW! HE MUST HAVE LINED THIS HIDING PLACE WITH STEEL!
HMM.. THAT'S THE SECOND TIME WE FAILED. THE BOSS ISN'T GOING TO LIKE THIS.
I COULD PICK THEM UP NOW-- BUT I MUST GET EVIDENCE AGAINST VAN JONES! I THINK I KNOW HOW TO TRAP HIM!
A LITTLE LATER, AS CLARK RETURNS TO CLASS AND CONFRONTS AN IRATE VAN JONES...
I KNOW I'M LATE, MR. VAN JONES, BUT MY FATHER RECEIVED SOMETHING VERY VALUABLE.. AND.. I... ER.. HAD TO HELP HIM UNPACK IT.
HMM.. VERY VALUABLE.. EH? WELL, IN THAT CASE, I'LL ER.. EXCUSE YOU. MEANWHILE, YOU MUST.. ER.. MAKE UP SOME WORK YOU MISSED BY ENTERING LATE.
JUST WRITE COMPOSITIONS ON THESE TOPICS.
THOSE TOPICS! THAT'S HALF THE ANSWER TO HIS SCHEME... MAYBE I CAN FIND THE OTHER HALF IN HIS OFFICE TONIGHT!
THAT NIGHT...
HMM.. LOOKS AS IF VAN JONES WAS AFRAID SUPERBOY MIGHT PRY INTO HIS AFFAIRS. THAT SECRET SAFE IS LINED WITH LEAD... IMPENETRABLE TO MY X-RAY VISION! WELL, IT SHOULDN'T BE DIFFICULT TO GET AT WHAT'S INSIDE.
I'LL JUST POKE MY FINGER THROUGH, THEN RELEASE THE CATCH. IT'LL BE EASY ENOUGH TO PATCH UP LATER, SO HE'LL NEVER KNOW I'VE BEEN PRYING!

NOW I GET IT! VAN JONES SUBSCRIBES TO A CLIPPING BUREAU, AND GETS NEWS OF WEALTHY SMALLVILLE PEOPLE WHO TRAVEL, FROM PAPERS ALL OVER THE WORLD.
SOUTH AMERICAN GAZETTE
SMALLVILLE PURCHASER BUYS FORTUNE IN DIAMONDS
PARISIAN WORLD
ORIGINAL GAUGIN GOES TO SMALLVILLE BUSINESS MAN
SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE
VISITORS FROM SMALLVILLE SEE MOVIE INDUSTRY


SINCE THE FIRST SERIES OF ROBBERIES, SMALLVILLE RESIDENTS HAVE AVOIDED PUBLICITY WHEN THEY'VE BOUGHT VALUABLES, FOR FEAR OF TIPPING OFF CRIMINALS. BUT FROM THOSE CLIPPINGS, VAN JONES CAN LEARN THAT SMALLVILLE PEOPLE PURCHASED VALUABLES, AND HE USES HIS CLASSROOM TO LEARN THEIR NAMES!


NEXT MORNING, SUPERBOY MAKES A SUPER-QUICK VISIT TO A CERTAIN OFFICE WHERE...
SURE, SUPERBOY. GLAD TO HELP. I'LL HAVE THIS LITTLE ITEM PRINTED FOR TOMORROW'S ISSUE.
NOW, AFTER I WRITE MY COMPOSITIONS FOR VAN JONES, MY LITTLE TRAP WILL BE SET--AND I'LL USE DAD FOR BAIT!
THE CURIO
MAGAZINE OF RELIC COLLECTORS

SOME DAYS LATER...
HMM.. MUST BE THE.. ER.. VALUABLE OBJECTS YOUNG KENT REFERRED TO. I'LL MAKE SURE IN CLASS, TODAY.
AND TODAY, I WAGER I'LL BE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN ANSWER HIS QUESTION!
CURIO SPECIAL! RUMOR HAS IT THAT $100,000 WORTH OF RARE AZTEC ART OBJECTS WERE PURCHASED RECENTLY BY A SMALLVILLE RESIDENT.

SURE ENOUGH..THAT DAY, IN CLASS...
CAN ANYONE TELL ME WHO QUETZALCOATL WAS?
ONLY SOMEONE WHO'S DISCUSSED THE AZTECS AT HOME RECENTLY... AS WOULD BE NATURAL IF HIS FATHER HAD PURCHASED RARE AZTEC TREASURES!

WELL..? ANY ANSWERS?
GOSH... WHAT A NAME! I NEVER HEARD OF HIM.
NOW THAT I'VE DONE A LITTLE READING, IT'S EASY TO SEE HOW HE WORKED IT. WESLEY KNEW ABOUT THE VAAL RIVER BECAUSE IT'S IN THE CENTER OF THE DIAMOND MINING REGION, AND THE ARTIST GAUGIN LIVED WITH THE TONGAS IN TAHITI!

I REMEMBER! QUETZALCOATL WAS THE AZTEC GOD OF CRAFTS AND ARTS!
EXCELLENT! AND YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE IN CLASS TO KNOW. HMMM.. VERY INTERESTING, CLARK!

LATE THAT NIGHT AT THE KENT HOME...
WAKE UP, JONATHAN. I..I..THINK I HEAR BURGLARS DOWN-STAIRS!
WH-WHAT? B-BURGLARS?

HMMM..I DO HEAR NOISES. I..ER..I'LL GO RIGHT DOWN. HAVE TO FIND SOME KIND OF WEAPON.
OH, DEAR. DON'T YOU THINK WE SHOULD WAKE CLARK? AFTER ALL, HE'S SUPERBOY!

I KNOW WE'VE GOT A BULLET-PROOF SON, MOTHER... BUT I DON'T WANT HIM TO RISK HIS IDENTITY BY TANGLING WITH BURGLARS AS CLARK KENT.
DEAR ME. CLARK'S IDENTITY IS IMPORTANT, BUT YOUR SAFETY IS MUCH MORE IMPORTANT.
11

POP'S RIGHT. I CAN'T SHOW UP AS CLARK KENT, AND THEN BE INVULNERABLE TO BULLETS-- AND IT WOULD LOOK SUSPICIOUS IF I CAME DOWNSTAIRS AS SUPERBOY.
WELL, SON.. I..ER..GUESS YOU KNOW BEST.
WHAT'S THIS? IS SUPERBOY ENDANGERING HIS DAD'S LIFE JUST TO PROTECT HIS IDENTITY?

MOMENTS LATER...DOWNSTAIRS...
ALL RIGHT, YOU TWO. DON'T MAKE A MOVE!
I TOLD YOU WE WERE FOOLS FOR NOT BRINGING GUNS!
DAD NEVER WAS IN DANGER. I KNEW THEY WOULDN'T BRING GUNS--AND THAT'S WHAT PROVES THEY'RE WORKING HAND IN GLOVE WITH VAN JONES!

ALL RIGHT, YOU TWO. TELL ME WHY YOU HAVE NO GUNS AND I'LL MAKE IT EASY WITH YOU.
ER..SURE, SUPERBOY... SURE. WE'LL... ER.. COOPERATE.

AND WHILE YOU'RE COOPERATING, I'LL PICK UP VAN JONES. HE'S GRADUATING FROM MANOR HALL TO STATE PEN!
CLARK WROTE A COMPOSITION ABOUT HIS FATHER--IN IT HE SAID HIS DAD HAD RIGGED UP A BURGLAR ALARM THAT WOULD GO OFF IF ANYONE CAME INTO HIS HOUSE WITH METAL WEAPONS.

LATER..AT THE POLICE STATION...
THE CLIPPING BUREAU ITEMS WOULD TELL VAN JONES THAT SOMEONE IN SMALLVILLE HAD A VALUABLE OBJECT, AND HIS QUESTIONS WOULD TELL HIM IF IT WAS THE FATHER OF ANYONE IN SCHOOL.
AND THEN THE COMPOSITIONS WOULD TIP HIM OFF IF A YOUNGSTER'S FATHER TOOK SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS.

YEAH--IN THE COMPOSITION ABOUT "HOW MY DAD IS CAREFUL," I TOLD ABOUT THE SPECIAL ALARM CONTROLLED BY MY DAD'S WEIGHT.
AND I TOLD HOW MY DAD HID VALUABLES IN A CACHE OUTSIDE THE GARAGE.
12

AND SO YOU WORKED OUT A TRAP FOR VAN JONES WITH CLARK KENT! YOU TWO CERTAINLY MADE A SWELL TEAM.
YES, SIR. CLARK AND I USUALLY GET ALONG WELL TOGETHER.
the END.

ADVERTISEMENT

WONDER WHAT'S ON TOP?
WE'RE NO PIKERS- LET'S HAVE A PEEK!
LET'S GO!
"PIKER'S PEAK" THATAWAY.
WHEW! THIS IS HARD WORK!
WONDER HOW MUCH FARTHER WE HAVE TO GO?
HOW HIGH IS UP?!
WISH I'D BROUGHT SOME DUBBLE BUBBLE GUM TO CHEW-
NO CHANCE TO GET ANY NOW 'TIL WE GET DOWN!
WE'RE ALMOST THERE- YIPPEE!
HERE Y'ARE, FOLKS! GET YER DUBBLE BUBBLE RIGHT HERE! NO NEED TO WAIT TO GET DOWN!
PUD!
WOW! FLEER'S DUBBLE BUBBLE TO CHEW!
IT WAS WORTH THE CLIMB!
1¢
FUNNIES, FORTUNES, FACTS ON EVERY WRAPPER!
FLEER'S BLOWS BIGGER BUBBLES FASTER!
TASTES GOOD, TOO!
DUBB-E BUBBLE GUM
1¢
NOW AVAILABLE ALL OVER THE WORLD!
FRANK H. FLEER CORP., PHILADELPHIA 41, PA.

NO LIGHTS ON IN BILL'S HOUSE - GOOD!
R-RING
HELLO, BILL. I SAW THE LIGHTS OUT- SO I KNEW YOU WERE HOME WATCHING TELEVISION! MIND IF I JOIN YOU?
THE END

SUPERBOY
The ADVENTURES of SUPERMAN
WHEN HE WAS A BOY
MAKE BIG MONEY AS A PRIVATE DETECTIVE!
Here's a chance for thrills and excitement WHILE YOU EARN! Let our staff of super sleuths train you in modern criminology Learn how to discover fingerprints! Shadow suspects! Interpret clues! Yes, the doors to scientific detection are open to you from the very first fact-crammed lesson! And as a part of this course, you will be given the most astounding lesson of all... a chance to study SUPERBOY at close range! Yes, you will actually become... "The Man Who Shadowed SUPERBOY!"
AFTER ONE MORE ASSIGNMENT, YOU'LL GET YOUR DETECTIVE'S DIPLOMA, LUKE! ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS SHADOW SUPERBOY!
DIPLOMA
NOW SH
SNAC
BAR

ONE DAY, ALONG A RURAL MAIL ROUTE NEAR THE TINY TOWN OF HILLDALE...
HERE'S ANOTHER LESSON FROM THAT CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL, LUKE! I GUESS WE'LL BE CALLING YOU "SHERLOCK HOLMES" SOON! HAW, HAW!
ONLY FOUR MORE LESSONS TO GO BEFORE GRADUATION! THANKS, MR. WILKINS!
L. FOLSUM
SOON AFTER, IN A NEARBY FARM HOUSE...
THOSE FUMES! THEY'RE SMELLING UP THE WHOLE HOUSE! WHAT ARE YOU UP TO NOW, LUKE?
AW, PLEASE, MA! THIS LESSON FROM THE DETECTIVE SCHOOL TAKES UP SCIENTIFIC SLEUTHING! I'VE GOT TO LEARN HOW TO USE CHEMICALS TO TRACK DOWN CLUES!
YES, LUKE FOLSUM IS ENROLLED IN THE DUCKWORTH ACADEMY OF DETECTION! AND HE EAGERLY FOLLOWS THE COURSES WHICH COME TO HIM EACH WEEK BY MAIL. LET US EXAMINE SOME OF THE LESSONS PRESCRIBED BY THE
DUCKWORTH DETECTIVES' MANUAL
"THE DUCKWORTH DETECTIVE MUST SOMETIMES ENLIST THE AID OF ANIMALS IN HIS WORK..."
GO ON, WHIRLAWAY! YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO FOLLOW THE TRAIL OF THE MAN WHO OWNS THIS HAT! PLEASE, WHIRLAWAY! DON'T JUST SIT THERE!
LUKE! WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH MY HAT? I'VE BEEN SEARCHIN' FOR IT ALL DAY!
"HE IS EVER ON THE LOOK-OUT FOR WANTED CRIMINALS... DISGUISES DON'T FOOL HIM..."
BANK
AH! THAT MAN ENTERING THE BANK! LUCKY I CARRY THIS ROGUES' GALLERY WITH ME!
2
HA! TRIGGER MAHONEY! THAT FAKE BEARD DOESN'T FOOL ME!
CUT IT OUT, LUKE! THIS IS SENATOR WIGGINS! HE'S GONNA RECOMMEND OUR TOWN FOR THE SIGHT OF A POWER PLANT... AT LEAST HE WAS!
SMALLVILLE BANK
THIS... HA-RRUMPH... CALLS FOR AN INVESTIGATION!

AT LAST, LUKE'S LONG HOURS OF STUDY AND PRACTICE PAY OFF! FOR, ONE DAY...
MY DIPLOMA! AND MY BADGE! YIPPEE! NOW I'M A FULL-FLEDGED PRIVATE DETECTIVE!
DIPLOMA
LATER...
MA! PA! I'VE DECIDED! THERE'S NO FUTURE FOR A DETECTIVE AROUND HILLDALE! I'M GOIN' TO A BIGGER TOWN AND SET UP PRACTICE AS A "PRIVATE EYE!" I WROTE THE CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL ABOUT MY PLANS!
GOOD LUCK, SON!
OH, LUKE! BE CAREFUL!
AND SOME DAYS LATER, AT THAT CAPITAL OF CRIMINOLOGY, THE DUCKWORTH ACADEMY OF DETECTION...
I WISH YOU'D STOP WEARING THAT SILLY HAT, PHILO!
I MUST, ELLERY! SUPPOSE ONE OF OUR STUDENTS DROPPED IN! THINK WHAT A GOOD IMPRESSION I'D MAKE!
DUCKWORTH DETECTIVES CAN'T BE DODGED
DUCKWORTH ACADEMY OF DETECTION
HA! THIS IS RICH! IT'S A LETTER FROM ONE OF OUR STUDENTS...A CHARACTER NAMED LUKE FOLSUM! HE'S GOING TO SET UP HIS OWN DETECTIVE AGENCY! AND GUESS WHERE HE'S PICKED TO DO IT?
HOW SHOULD I KNOW? WHAT DO YOU THINK I AM, A DETECTIVE?
IN SMALLVILLE! IMAGINE! A PRIVATE DETECTIVE LOOKING FOR BUSINESS IN THE HOME TOWN OF SUPERBOY! HA, HA!
THAT'S RICH! SUPERBOY SOLVES EVERY CRIME AND BRINGS THE CROOKS TO JUSTICE IN THE TIME IT TAKES AN ORDINARY DETECTIVE TO FIND HIS FIRST CLUE! I PREDICT LUKE FOLSUM WILL STARVE IN SMALLVILLE!
BUT LUKE DOES NOT KNOW OF HIS "PROFESSORS'" FEARS FOR HIM! AND SOON IN SMALLVILLE, HOME TOWN OF SUPERBOY...
HERE IS THE DESK YOU ORDERED, MR. FOLSUM! WE'LL WIPE IT OFF FOR YOU!
WAIT! I MUST FIRST EXAMINE IT, FOR FINGERPRINTS! I NEED THE PRACTICE, YOU KNOW!
LUKE FOLSUM
PRIVATE DETECTIVE
B.C.
(BATCHELOR OF CRIMINOLOGY)
3

SEVERAL DAYS LATER...
CAR 18... GO TO AID OF MOTORIST ON NORTH ROAD... FLAT TIRE... THAT IS ALL.
I'M ALL SET TO PLOT THE AREAS IN TOWN WHERE MOST CRIMES OCCUR. BUT THERE HASN'T BEEN A CRIME SINCE I'VE BEEN HERE. AND NOBODY'S CALLED EITHER.

SUDDENLY...
ATTENTION ALL CARS! THIEVES HAVE STOLEN RADIUM FROM SMALLVILLE HOSPITAL! GO AT ONCE TO...
AH! A CRIME AT LAST! NOW'S MY CHANCE TO SHOW THAT THERE'S A GENUINE *DETECTIVE* IN TOWN! IF I SOLVE THIS, BUSINESS SHOULD BOOM!

BUT AT THIS VERY INSTANT, THE FAMED FIGURE OF **SUPERBOY** IS ALREADY IN ACTION AGAINST THE CRIMINALS...
THERE'S SOMETHING IN THAT CAR MY X-RAY VISION CAN'T PENETRATE! MUST BE THE LEAD-LINED BOX CONTAINING THE RADIUM!

LIKE A CAPED STREAK, THE **BOY OF TOMORROW** DIVES TOWARD THE FLEEING CAR AND...
LAST STOP! ALL OUT!
WHIRRR!

HEY, BEETLE! WHAT GIVES? WE'RE NOT MOVIN'!
I CAN'T FIGURE IT! I'VE GOT THE ACCELERATOR DOWN TO THE FLOOR!
VROHRRRR!
4

BUT THINGS DON'T STAND STILL FOR LONG...
BEETLE! LOOK! IT'S **SUPERBOY**!
YOU BOYS EVER BEEN TAKEN FOR A RIDE?

AND AT THE SMALLVILLE HOSPITAL...
"...THEN SPRINKLE SURFACE WITH SPECIAL POWDER WHICH WILL BRING OUT FINGERPRINTS." AH, THERE WE ARE!

EUREKA! SCIENTIFIC DETECTION METHODS TRIUMPH! NOW, OFFICER, IF YOU'LL SUMMON YOUR CHIEF, HE CAN PHOTOGRAPH THE PRINTS I'VE DISCOVERED AND IDENTIFY THE CRIMINALS!
SOMEHOW I THINK THEY'VE ALREADY BEEN IDENTIFIED...AND CAUGHT!

THESE CROOKS HAD SOME...ER...DIFFICULTY MAKING THEIR CAR RUN. I HELPED THEM GET BACK HERE — WITH THE RADIUM!
CONGRATULATIONS, SUPERBOY!

SUPERBOY WAS LUCKY! BUT HIS METHODS ARE SO UNSCIENTIFIC... THERE'S CERTAINLY NEED FOR A *REAL* DETECTIVE IN SMALLVILLE!
IT'S ALL HERE, EVERY OUNCE! SINCE YOU'RE IMMUNE TO THE EFFECTS OF RADIUM, SUPERBOY, I'D LIKE YOU TO KEEP IT UNTIL THE SAFE IS REPAIRED!
CERTAINLY, DOCTOR!

THE FOLLOWING DAY...
I'LL CRUISE AROUND LISTENING TO POLICE CALLS ON THE SHORT-WAVE. THIS WAY I'LL GET TO THE SCENE OF A CRIME FASTER!

SHORTLY AFTER...
THESE CHARACTERS I SPOTTED FROM THE CAR LOOK SUSPICIOUS... IF I CAN JUST MAKE OUT WHAT THEY'RE SAYING...
SUPERBOY WILL NEVER RISK SEARCHING FOR THAT BOMB WE PLANTED IN THE DAM. BEFORE HE COULD FIND IT, THE DAM MIGHT BLOW UP AND BURY THE TOWN UNDER WATER. HE MUST DO AS WE SAY!

THIS IS MY CHANCE! LUKE FOLSUM, ACE DETECTIVE, WILL SAVE SUPERBOY! LET ME LOOK IT UP IN MY TEXT-BOOK... "BOMBS!" HERE WE ARE! "...LISTEN FOR TICKING SOUND. TO NEUTRALIZE, REMOVE TIME MECHANISM AND..."

MEANWHILE, IN THE GENERAL STORE OWNED BY HIS FOSTER FATHER, CLARK KENT IS HELPING OUT AFTER SCHOOL...
GOOD-BYE, MR. FLINT!
SO LONG, CLARK! I'LL BE BACK TO SHOW YOU SOME MORE SAMPLES OF MY COMPANY'S MERCHANDISE NEXT WEEK!
HMM... THIS FLINT LOOKS FAMILIAR! I MUST HAVE COME ACROSS HIM ONE TIME WHEN I WAS SUPERBOY!
FLASH! WE INTERRUPT THIS PROGRAM FOR A NEWS BULLETIN!

HAL FLINT! I BEEN WANTIN' TO SEE YOU EVER SINCE YOU SOLD US THAT LAND! IT'S ALL MARSHLAND... WORTHLESS!
NOW I REMEMBER! HE WAS BEHIND THAT BIG LAND SWINDLE COUPLE YEARS AGO! WONDER WHAT HE'S UP TO WITH THIS SALESMAN ROUTINE? CAN'T WORRY ABOUT THAT NOW... THERE'S SOMETHING ON THE RADIO!
ATTENTION SUPERBOY!
KEN GENERAL

A BOMB HAS BEEN HIDDEN SOMEWHERE IN THE SMALLVILLE DAM! UNLESS SUPERBOY GOES TO 12TH AND HYLER STREETS AT ONCE, THE BOMB'S LOCATION WILL NOT BE REVEALED AND IT MAY EXPLODE BEFORE EVEN SUPERBOY CAN FIND IT! IT IS BELIEVED THAT CRIMINALS WISH TO FORCE SUPERBOY TO...

IN THE REAR OF THE STORE, CLARK SWITCHES TO SUPERBOY! AND SECONDS AFTER, AT THE SMALLVILLE RESERVOIR...
I'LL SEARCH THE DAM WITH MY X-RAY VISION AND...AH! SPOTTED THE BOMB ALREADY! WHOEVER PLANTED IT SHOULD KNOW BETTER THAN TO TRY TO BLACKMAIL ME!
6

I THINK I'M ON THE TRACK! I SHOULD FIND...WHAT...WHAT'S THAT? THE BOMB'S GONE OFF! AND IN SUPERBOY'S HAND!
BOOOM!
I'LL CRUSH THE BOMB IN MY HAND AND... THERE! IT'S EXPLODED HARMLESSLY!

AND LATER, AT THE CORNER OF 12TH AND HYLER STREETS...

WE HEARD THE BOMB EXPLODE SEVERAL MINUTES AGO BUT STILL NO FLOOD! WONDER WHAT...

LOOK! UP ABOVE US! IT'S HIM! IT'S **SUPER-BOY**!

SORRY TO BE LATE FOR OUR APPOINTMENT, BOYS! BUT AT LEAST I DIDN'T BREAK IT!

AND FOR SOME DAYS AFTER, IN THE OFFICE OF LUKE FOLSUM, PRIVATE DETECTIVE...

LUKE FOLSUM PRIVATE DETECTIVE

SUPERBOY FOILS BANK BANDITS

...BUT AS FRANKY REED TRIED TO ESCAPE WITH THE DIAMONDS, **SUPERBOY** MOVED IN AND...

I'M STARVING! OVER TWO WEEKS IN SMALLVILLE WITHOUT A CASE. AND NO WONDER, WITH **SUPERBOY** AROUND TO SOLVE EVERY CRIME!

AT LAST...

I'M SORRY, MR. FOLSUM! BUT YOU HAVEN'T MADE A PAYMENT ON THE FURNITURE SINCE YOU'VE BEEN HERE! IT'LL HAVE TO GO!

I HATE TO DO THIS, BUD, BUT YOUR PHONE BILL'S WAY PAST DUE AND...

LETTER FOR YOU, MR. FOLSUM! SPECIAL DELIVERY!

PROBABLY ANOTHER BILL THAT...HEY! MONEY! AND... AN *ASSIGNMENT*! "HERE'S $500! YOU'LL GET ANOTHER FIVE HUNDRED AFTER YOU FINISH THE JOB! SHADOW A BOY FOR ONE WEEK AND REPORT EVERY MOVE HE MAKES. THE BOY IS *CLARK KENT*! PICTURES ARE ENCLOSED!"

SO THIS IS TO BE MY FIRST ASSIGNMENT! BUT THIS KENT IS A MERE SCHOOLBOY! WHY WOULD ANYONE WANT HIM SHADOWED? AH, WELL! 'TIS NOT FOR THE DETECTIVE TO QUESTION WHY! I MUST LOOK UP YOUNG KENT AT ONCE AND THEN STICK TO HIM LIKE GLUE!

AND THAT VERY AFTERNOON...

HMM...HE STAYED IN SCHOOL UNTIL THREE, NOW HE'S GONE INTO THE ICE CREAM PARLOR! THIS MIRROR DEVICE I COPIED FROM THE DETECTIVE'S MANUAL IS REAL NEAT! CLARK KENT WILL NEVER SUSPECT I'M SHADOWING HIM!

THAT AMATEUR DETECTIVE, LUKE FOLSUM, HAS BEEN FOLLOWING ME ALL DAY! HE'S BEEN TRYING SO HARD TO REMAIN UNNOTICED THAT I SPOTTED HIM RIGHT AWAY!

HEY, CLARK! SNAP OUT OF YOUR PRIVATE DREAM AND ORDER! I'M HAVING A DOUBLE CHOCOLATE MALTED ENRICHED WITH VITAMIN D! MUST KEEP UP MY STRENGTH, YOU KNOW!

THAT EVENING, AS CLARK RETURNS FROM A BASKETBALL GAME...
THAT CHARACTER'S STILL FOLLOWING ME! THIS IS GETTING...HOLD ON! MY SUPER-HEARING DETECTS A STRANGE GRINDING SOUND FROM A PASSING TRAIN... SOUNDS LIKE A BURNT BEARING!
I CAN'T GIVE THIS HAWKSHAW A CLUE THAT I'M SUPERBOY BUT... I'VE GOT IT! A LITTLE DRIBBLING PRACTICE WITH THIS BASKETBALL...UNDER THE STREET LAMP WHERE I CAN BE SEEN...
...THEN AROUND THE CORNER AND INTO THE SHADOWS! THE SUPER-THRUST I GAVE THAT BALL WILL KEEP IT BOUNCING DOWN THE PAVEMENT FOR A MILE! TIME FOR ME TO SWITCH TO SUPERBOY!
PLUNK! PLUNK! PLUNK! PLUNK!
IN SECONDS, THE BOY OF STEEL HAS OVER-TAKEN THE SPEEDING EXPRESS TRAIN AND...
AH! GOT HERE JUST IN TIME! ANOTHER SECOND AND THE BEARING WOULD HAVE BEEN COMPLETELY BURNED OUT AND THE TRAIN MIGHT HAVE BEEN WRECKED! NOW I MUST SIGNAL THE ENGINEER TO STOP! BUT I CAN'T RELEASE THIS AXLE WHILE THE TRAIN'S MOVING!
PROOOOAP!
IN EMERGENCIES, ENGINEERS ARE SOMETIMES SIGNALED BY PLACING A SMALL TORPEDO ON THE RAILS! WHEN THE TRAIN'S WHEELS EXPLODE THE TORPEDO, THE ENGINEER, HEARING THE EXPLOSION, HALTS THE TRAIN! I'LL GIVE MY FINGERS A SNAP... AH! AS LOUD AS ANY TORPEDO!
BANG!
WHEN THE TRAIN STOPS, SUPERBOY EXPLAINS TO THE ENGINEER! AND SECONDS AFTER...
GOOD! THE BALL'S STILL BOUNCING ALONG! NOW BACK TO CLARK KENT!
IF I SAY IT MYSELF, THIS IS SHREWD DETECTING! KENT GETS OUT OF SIGHT FOR A MOMENT, BUT I KEEP ON HIS TRAIL BY FOLLOWING THE SOUND OF THE BALL HE'S BOUNCING!
PLUNK! PLUNK! PLUNK!
8

LATER, OUTSIDE LUKE FOLSUM'S OFFICE...
LUKE FOLLOWED CLARK HOME! NOW THAT HE THINKS I'M SAFELY IN BED FOR THE NIGHT, I'LL SHADOW HIM! HMMM... SOMEONE IN THERE WITH LUKE! MY SUPER-HEARING AND X-RAY VISION WILL MAKE THIS SCENE A CLOSE-UP!
IT'S FLINT, THAT PHONEY SALESMAN! SO HE'S THE ONE WHO PUT LUKE UP TO FOLLOWING CLARK KENT!
HERE'S THE REPORT, MR. FLINT! EVERY MOVE KENT'S MADE FROM WHEN HE GOT UP UNTIL HE WENT TO BED! BUT WHY DO YOU WANT TO KNOW SO MUCH ABOUT AN ORDINARY SCHOOL KID?
NEVER MIND, FOLSUM! JUST KEEP ON SHADOWING HIM... THAT'S ALL YOU'RE PAID FOR!
LATER, SUPERBOY FOLLOWS THE MYSTERIOUS FLINT...
THIS IS THE THIRD SPOT THAT, AS CLARK KENT, I VISITED EARLIER TODAY! FLINT MUST BE RETRACING EVERY STEP LUKE TOLD HIM I TOOK... I CAN'T FIGURE IT!
NEXT MORNING...
AH! THIS DOES THE TRICK! MUST KEEP CHANGING MY METHODS SO THE KID WON'T SUSPECT HE'S BEING SHADOWED!
OH, BROTHER! WHAT WILL LUKE THINK OF NEXT! NOW HE'S WATCHING ME THROUGH A PERISCOPE!
PRESENTLY...
NOW HE'S USING THE OLD GAG OF PRETENDING TO LOOK IN A SHOP WINDOW BUT ACTUALLY HE'S WATCHING MY REFLECTION IN THE GLASS! WAIT! MY SUPER-HEARING DETECTS VOICES IN THE OFFICE—IT'S A HOLDUP!
EGG STOR PLANT
AGAIN THIS SILLY SHEER-LUCK HOLMES IS IN MY WAY! HMM... THIS STACK OF EGG CRATES GIVES ME AN IDEA! IF I JUST TILT IT A TINY BIT...
OH! THOSE CRATES! THEY'RE COMING DOWN!
9

THE STACK IS STILL TEETERING DANGEROUSLY! YOU STEADY IT ON YOUR SIDE AND I'LL BRACE IT ON MINE!
BACK HERE I CAN SWITCH AND HE WON'T SEE ME!
I'M DOING MY BEST, BUT THEY KEEP TEETERING BACK AND FORTH! I DAREN'T LET GO!
EVEN THOUGH HE CAN'T SEE ME, I MUST DO SOMETHING TO MAKE HIM THINK CLARK KENT IS REMAINING HERE! AH... THAT STEEL BAR USED TO PRY OPEN EGG CRATES SHOULD DO THE TRICK!
FIRST I'LL STRETCH THIS STEEL TO MAKE A LONG, THIN STRAND!
THEN I WIND THE STRAND AROUND THIS ARM TO FORM A STEEL SPRING!
EGGS
EGGS
NOW THE STEEL SPRING I FASHIONED WILL PUT ENOUGH PRESSURE ON THE STACK SO LUKE WILL THINK CLARK KENT IS STILL BACK THERE!
THAT'S RIGHT! KEEP 'ER STEADY! FINE! FINE!
SECONDS LATER...
CHECK YOUR ARTILLERY HERE, BOYS!
OUR GATS! HE'S TAKEN 'EM!
THANK GOODNESS! IT'S SUPERBOY!

AND WHILE THE DISARMED CRIMINALS ARE HELD FOR THE POLICE...
NOW TO GET THIS STACK OF CRATES STEADIED AND HURRY TO SCHOOL!
OKAY!
LUCKY CLARK KENT HAS BEEN STUCK WHERE I CAN KEEP TRACK OF HIM! OTHERWISE I'D HAVE HAD TO LET THESE CRATES GO!
ALL RIGHT! JUST HOLD FIRM NOW, LUKE, AND WE'LL HAVE IT!
LATER, DURING THE SCHOOL'S AFTERNOON RECESS...
HMM...FLINT IS CHECKING UP ON LUKE! GUESS HE COULDN'T WAIT FOR HIS NIGHTLY REPORT! IF I ONLY KNEW WHY HE WAS SO INTERESTED IN MY ACTIVITIES!
YOU'RE SURE HE'S IN SCHOOL, FOLSUM? I HAVE A... ER... FEELING HE'S CLOSE BY US!
TICK! TICK! TICK!
I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM LEAVE THE SCHOOL YARD! HOW DO YOU KNOW HE'S NEAR US, MR. FLINT?
NEVER MIND HOW, BUT I'M SURE OF IT!
FLINT CAN'T SEE ME BUT HE'S CERTAIN I'M CLOSE BY! AND THAT TICKING FROM HIS SAMPLE CASE! AH! MY X-RAY VISION REVEALS WHAT HE'S CARRYING! MY HUNCH WAS RIGHT!
TICK! TICK! TICK!
AND AFTER SCHOOL...
GOOD! LUKE'S FOLLOWED ME! HE'LL REPORT TO FLINT THAT I CROSSED THIS MARSHY LAND WHICH FLINT RECENTLY SOLD TO SOME POOR PEOPLE IN A SWINDLE! I'LL SOON KNOW IF MY THEORY IS CORRECT!
LATE THAT NIGHT...
I'VE CHECKED THE OTHER PLACES WHICH LUKE SAID KENT VISITED TODAY... THIS SWAMP IS THE LAST! THE TICKING! IT'S LOUD AND STEADY! THIS IS THE SPOT I'VE BEEN SEARCHING FOR! AND TO THINK I ONCE THOUGHT THIS MARSH WAS WORTHLESS!
TICK! TICK! TICK!
BUT AT THIS MOMENT, TUNNELING BENEATH THE SOGGY EARTH...
THE TICKING NOISE COMES FROM A GEIGER COUNTER CONCEALED IN FLINT'S SAMPLE CASE! HE WAS LOOKING FOR LAND CONTAINING RADIOACTIVE DEPOSITS PLANNING TO BUY IT CHEAP FROM THE UNSUSPECTING OWNERS!...
TICK! TICK! TICK!

Tick! Tick Tick
BUT WHEN HE WAS IN THE STORE, THE RADIUM I'M CARRYING FOR THE HOSPITAL SET OFF HIS GEIGER COUNTER... SO FLINT FIGURED CLARK KENT REGULARLY PASSED OVER RADIOACTIVE LAND AND HAD PICKED UP TINY PARTICLES WHICH REGISTERED ON HIS COUNTER. SO HE HAD LUKE SHADOW CLARK KENT, HOPING HE WOULD LEARN THE "SOURCE" OF A RADIUM DEPOSIT!

NEXT DAY...
HERE'S TWICE WHAT YOU PAID ME FOR THAT OLD SWAMP LAND, MR. BELLOWS! I WANT IT BACK FOR... SENTIMENTAL REASONS!
WHEN I BURROWED BENEATH THE SWAMP, THE RADIUM I'M CARRYING SET FLINT'S COUNTER TO TICKING AGAIN! NOW HE THINKS HE'S FOUND A FABULOUS DEPOSIT!

AND MOMENTS AFTER, IN THE SMALLVILLE HOSPITAL..
THANK YOU FOR TAKING CARE OF THE RADIUM FOR US, SUPERBOY! I TRUST IT CAUSED YOU NO TROUBLE!
NONE AT ALL, DOCTOR!
BUT IT SURE CAUSED PLENTY OF TROUBLE FOR FLINT AND FOR A CERTAIN PRIVATE DETECTIVE!

THE FOLLOWING DAY...
I HEARD THAT LUKE CLOSED SHOP AND WAS WORKING HERE AS A DETECTIVE! WONDER WHAT... THERE HE IS!
LUKE CAN SPOT A BAD EGG QUICKER THAN ANYONE WE'VE EVER HAD WORKING THIS EGG CANDLER! YOU COULD CALL HIM AN EGG DETECTIVE!
EGG DETECTED DEPT
THE END

ADVERTISEMENT

RIDDLE ME THIS by Necco

WHAT WELL-KNOWN RULER HAS THREE FEET BUT NO LEGS?

GIVE UP? SEE BELOW*

* ANSWER: A YARD STICK

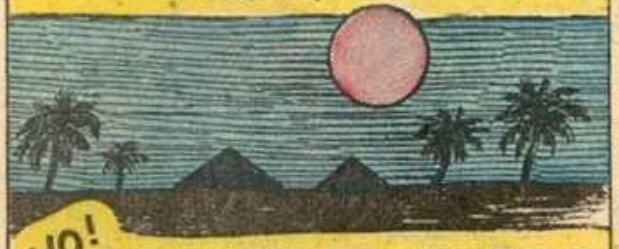
WHAT CANDY IS ALWAYS A ROYAL TREAT? THAT'S SIMPLE... THAT'S DEE-LISCIOUS Necco WAFERS!

Necco ASSORTED WAFERS

A LOT FOR A LITTLE!

QUICK QUIZ

IS THERE **WATER** ON THE MOON?



NO! THE THEORY OF LUNAR SEAS, BELIEVED BY THE ANCIENTS, IS ERRONEOUS! THERE IS NO WATER ON THE MOON, THOUGH IT CONTAINED OCEANS MILLIONS OF YEARS AGO! IT CONSISTS OF MOUNTAINS AND LIFELESS PLAINS

WHICH CONTAINS MORE **SUGAR**... PEACHES... LEMONS OR WATERMELONS?

IS THERE A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A **THIEF** AND A **ROBBER?**

YES! A THIEF STEALS PROPERTY SECRETLY OR WITHOUT FORCE! A ROBBER USES FORCE OR VIOLENCE... WHEN STEALING!

HOW MUCH BREAD IS BAKED DAILY ON A U.S. BATTLESHIP?

ENOUGH TO FEED A CITY OF 8500! 4000 LOAVES... 12000 HOT ROLLS, 9000 COOKIES AND 800 PIES! J.H.T.-EDMO

ADVERTISEMENT

CHARLIE WILD PRIVATE DETECTIVE

YOUNG HEROES

THERE'S a different brand of courage than the type it takes to plunge into adventures. There's that quiet courage which is necessary to look defeat squarely in the eye and slowly change it to victory.

Hundreds of youngsters who find themselves handicapped one way or another in early childhood have had to build this adult courage in themselves. And many of them have done it with music.

The most notable example of these brave youngsters is Joey Scotti, of Chicago, Ill., a polio victim who refused to believe doctors who told him that he would be a hopeless cripple. His father, encouraged by the boy's unshakable faith in himself, thought perhaps piano lessons would help him regain the use of his fingers.

He progressed, and then asked for a Hammond organ so he could use his feet, too, on the pedals. Today at 13 years of age, Joey is an accomplished organist, giving recitals and playing regularly for his parish's religious services.

In a Cleveland, Ohio, public high school, a teacher noticed that 16-year-old Lillian was growing more and more withdrawn and almost morbid. After careful questioning, the teacher discovered that the girl, who had an attractive face, was terribly scarred on her body from an accidental scalding, and she was daily growing more depressed about it.

Figuring accurately that Lillian's mind needed to be diverted from this disfigurement, the teacher started her on a simple instrument in the school band.

Her sincere welcome into the group of young musicians, her complete absorption in music and the feeling of real accomplishment helped Lillian to rise above her handicap and become an extremely popular girl.

Sometimes a child's problem seems minor to others, and there is more laughter than sympathy, with the result that a boy or girl loses confidence and the chance to be "part of the crowd."

In a kindergarten class in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, a small girl named Ellen luckily drew the worried attention of her teacher with her constant stammering.

The other children teased her and laughed at her, but the teacher diagnosed her problem correctly as extreme shyness, almost reaching a fear of "not belonging."

Ellen was urged to sing—to sing

alone, to lead the class—and as she grew in importance, the tiny girl grew more confident and her "handicap" was beaten in the early stages.

There are physical attributes, of course, that can't be changed, but their effects can be softened. In one instance, a freshman in a midwestern high school was called into the principal's office when the latter heard a rumor that the boy was leaving school.

"Why do you want to leave school before you get your diploma, Bill?" he was asked.

And the 14-year-old boy, over six feet in height, claimed that he was "too big," and was being ridiculed by his classmates. He simply figured he'd go out in a man's world and work.

The understanding principal had a long talk with Bill, and the boy listened attentively. He agreed that his height would be a matter of envy years from now, so it was really up to him to adjust himself to the few years of school.

He was assigned to play the tuba—no other boy was big enough to handle it well!—and he became a popular member of the school band and drew the admiring glances of the girls in his sharp brown and white uniform.

Sometimes, in the event of actually crippling diseases, the blow to a child is struck early in life, and that child's courage is a shining example to those of any age.

Jack Dempsey, whose fighting heart is practically a legend to American children, gave tribute one day to six-year-old David O'Blenes of Green Bay, Wisconsin, with these words:

"You're quite a scrapper yourself, fella!"

For little David, who had spent two years in a cast, lying on his stomach, had learned to play the piano in that position on the edge of a cot. His utter faith in his ultimate cure keeps David happy, and he has become quite an accomplished pianist and—who knows? —may be carving out his career at this early age.

David's case was so outstanding that a radio station broadcast several of his performances at the piano—and a whole city took time to admire the courage and determination of a child.

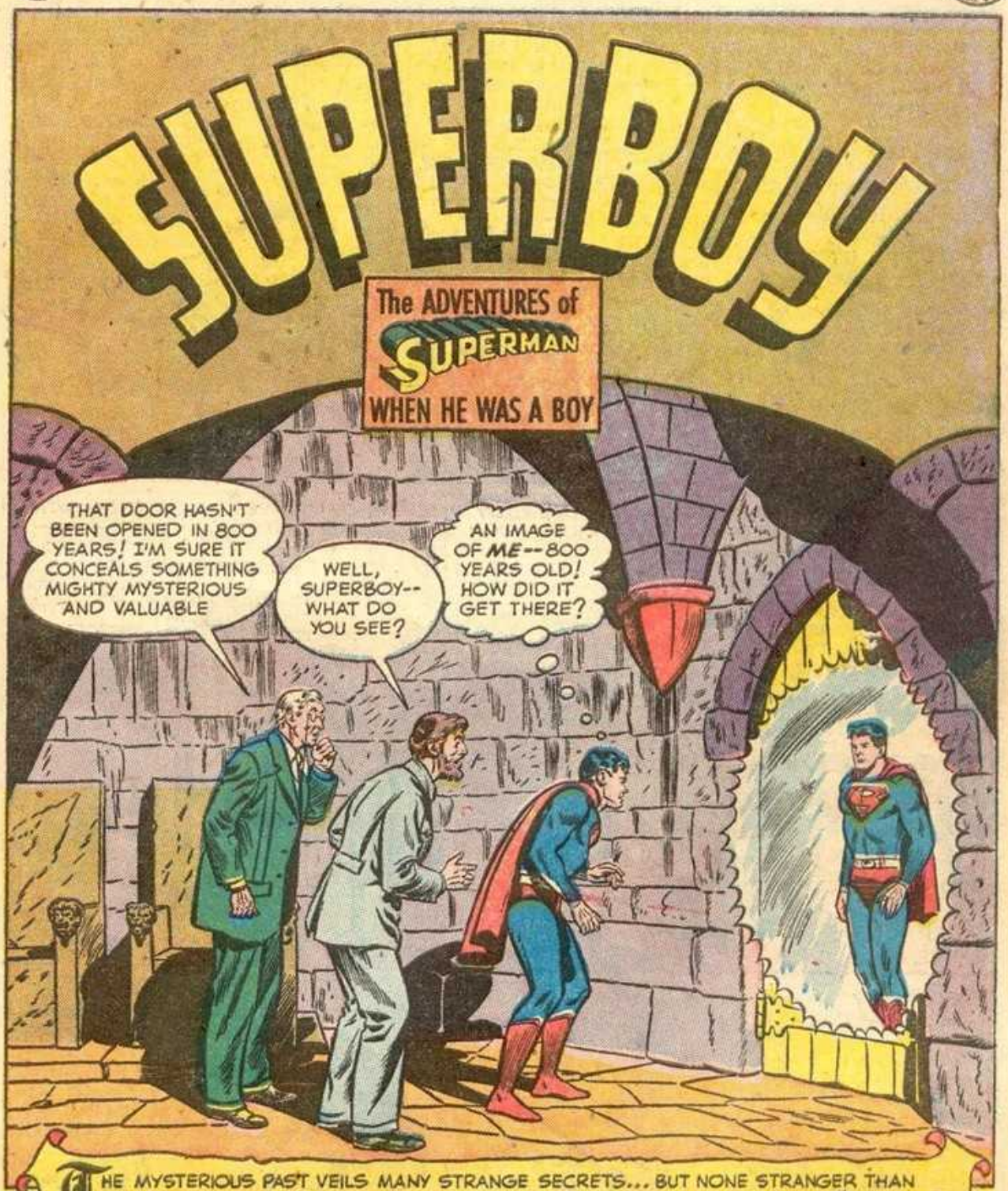
Joey Scotti, the organist, has also attracted city-wide attention. Scorning special consideration for his handicap, he entered a competitive radio amateur show and took the top honors. His hands, now strong and dexterous, his feet gaining in manipulation with the constant pedal work of the organ, Joey is in demand as an expert organist in Chicago.

And his example as a child of bravery is a heartening one to those who care for similar youngsters when he performs at the annual meetings of the National Society for Crippled Children.

Throughout the country, the therapeutic value of music on physically handicapped children is being given more and more attention. Like the mentally retarded child, the physically disabled are enjoying aid to overcome their obstacles and to make them into useful citizens who can cope with life's problems and to make their own way in society.

Yes, Joey, little David, and the other children have proved conclusively that bravery is not for heroes alone. You don't have to be a soldier or a policeman to earn your medal for valor.

These children can be heroes, too—in the battle with life.


SUPERBOY
The ADVENTURES of SUPERMAN WHEN HE WAS A BOY
THAT DOOR HASN'T BEEN OPENED IN 800 YEARS! I'M SURE IT CONCEALS SOMETHING MIGHTY MYSTERIOUS AND VALUABLE
WELL, SUPERBOY-- WHAT DO YOU SEE?
AN IMAGE OF ME--800 YEARS OLD! HOW DID IT GET THERE?

THE MYSTERIOUS PAST VEILS MANY STRANGE SECRETS... BUT NONE STRANGER THAN THAT WHICH **SUPERBOY** FOUND IN THE RUINS OF AN 800-YEAR OLD PALACE! AND, WHEN HE TURNED BACK THE TIDE OF TIME AND RETURNED TO AN AGE LONG SINCE VANISHED, HE HAD TO ASSUME **ANOTHER SECRET IDENTITY** AND MAKE FRIENDS WITH A LAD WHO WAS **TERRIFIED** OF SUPERBOY, THOUGH HE HAD NEVER SEEN HIM! FOR THIS WAS THE ONLY WAY IN WHICH THE **BOY OF STEEL** COULD SOLVE THE RIDDLE OF...

"SUPERBOY'S DOUBLE!"

ONE MORNING, AS CLARK KENT AND HIS PRETTY BUT EVER-SUSPICIOUS COMPANION, LANA LANG, TAKE A STROLL TOGETHER...

SUPERBOY URGENT CABLEGRAM FOR YOU

AGAIN SUPERBOY IS NEEDED, AND CLARK TAKES OFF!

GOSH, THAT...ER... REMINDS ME--MY MOTHER WANTS ME TO DO SOMETHING URGENT FOR HER! SEE YOU LATER, LANA!

DARTING INTO CONCEALMENT, MILD-MANNERED CLARK SHUCKS HIS OUTER GARMENTS, TO BECOME SUPERBOY, THE BOY OF STEEL!

MOMENTS LATER, HIGH ABOVE SMALLVILLE...

I WAS TOLD TO DELIVER THAT MESSAGE TO YOU AS FAST AS POSSIBLE, SUPERBOY!

HMM... IT'S FROM PROFESSOR RILEY, THE FAMOUS ARCHAEOLOGIST! SAYS HE'S MADE SOME STARTLING DISCOVERY IN EUROPE, AND HE NEEDS MY HELP! I'D BETTER GET RIGHT OVER THERE!

SPANNING OCEANIC MILES IN SECONDS, SUPERBOY ARRIVES IN AN ANCIENT UNDERGROUND PALACE ROOM, WHERE...

I'VE UNEARTHED COUNTLESS HISTORICAL TREASURES HERE, SUPERBOY, BUT THAT KNOBLESS DOOR DEFIES ME! I'M SURE IT CONCEALS SOMETHING PRICELESS!

MY X-RAY VISION REVEALS A BUTTON UNDER THOSE LAYERS OF DUST, PROFESSOR! IT MAY BE THE KEY!

SUPERBOY PRESSES THE BUTTON--WITH STARTLING RESULTS!

WHY, IT... IT'S ANOTHER SUPERBOY--FROM OUT OF THE PAST!

A MODEL--LIKE ME IN EVERY DETAIL! BUT THAT RING... I'VE NEVER SEEN THAT BEFORE!

JUDGING BY THE PAINT ON THE METALLIC SURFACE, AND THE DEPOSITS OF DUST, THIS MODEL WAS MADE ABOUT 800 YEARS AGO, AND HASN'T BEEN DISTURBED SINCE!

B-BUT I WASN'T EVEN BORN 800 YEARS AGO! H-HOW COULD IT HAVE GOTTEN HERE?

YOU KNOW, IF I COULD MOVE FASTER THAN THE SPEED OF LIGHT, I'D BE CURIOUS ENOUGH TO TRAVEL BACK INTO THE PAST AND FIND OUT! HOW ABOUT YOU?

ME? I'M SUPER-CURIOUS! I WON'T HAVE A MOMENT'S PEACE TILL I SOLVE THIS MYSTERY!

OUTSTRIPPING THE SPEED OF LIGHT, MOVING BACKWARD THROUGH TIME AT THE RATE OF HUNDREDS OF YEARS A SECOND, THE BOY OF TOMORROW TRAVELS INTO THE PAST!
AND SOON, IN THE 12TH CENTURY A.D...
YOUR NETS ARE EMPTY AGAIN, EVEN THOUGH YOU'VE BEEN WARNED THAT THE KING'S ARMY NEEDS YOUR CATCH FOR SUPPLIES -- PERHAPS YOU NEED A MORE POINTED WARNING!
HMMM... LOOKS AS IF I'VE RUN SMACK INTO TROUBLE! I'D BETTER ACT FAST!
NO! NO! SOMEONE'S BEEN TAMPERING WITH THE NETS!
JUST A MINUTE, YOU TIN SOLDIER! WHERE I COME FROM, WE DEMAND PROOF OF GUILT BEFORE WE PUNISH PEOPLE!
Y-YOUR BARE HAND -- STRONGER THAN THE STURDIEST ARMOR! WH-WHO ARE YOU?
I'M SUPERBOY -- AND THIS IS A ROUNDABOUT WAY TO MAKE SURE YOU STAY OUT OF TROUBLE! NOW, ROLL THIS HOOP BACK TO YOUR BOSS, AND TELL HIM TO STOP BULLYING INNOCENT PEOPLE!
OH -- ISN'T HE WONDERFUL? IF ONLY THERE WERE SOME WAY I COULD GET HIM TO TAKE ME TO THE FAIR!
WATCH OUT, SUPERBOY! THAT ADMIRING LITTLE LASS IS GOING TO SPELL TROUBLE!
A LITTLE LATER, WHILE SOARING OVER THE VILLAGE...
THAT BOY... THE RING ON HIS FINGER IS THE SAME ONE THAT WAS ON MY IMAGE! I MUST TALK TO HIM... HE'S PROBABLY CONNECTED SOMEHOW WITH THAT IMAGE OF ME IN THE UNDERGROUND PALACE!
YOU, THERE! CAN YOU TELL ME...
WH-WHAT? HE... HE'S TERRIFIED OF ME!
KEEP AWAY! YOU'RE ANOTHER ONE! I KNOW IT!
3

IF YOU COME NEAR ME, I'LL... I'LL LEAP OVER THIS CLIFF!
WHAT DOES HE MEAN--I'M "ANOTHER ONE"? THAT REMARK AND THE RING HE'S WEARING CONVINCE ME HE'S THE LINK TO THAT IMAGE...BUT HOW CAN I FIND OUT IF HE WON'T EVEN LET ME COME NEAR HIM? WHY SHOULD HE BE AFRAID OF ME?

I'LL HAVE TO WIN HIS CONFIDENCE, TO GET AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS RIDDLE...AND SINCE HE'S SO TERRIFIED OF SUPERBOY, THERE'S ONLY ONE THING FOR ME TO DO--ESTABLISH A SECRET IDENTITY, JUST AS I HAVE IN SMALLVILLE...LET'S SEE...SUPER-HEARING SHOULD HELP ME LOCATE AN ELIGIBLE PAIR OF FOSTER PARENTS!

AND AS SUPERBOY "TUNES IN" ON HOUSEHOLD CONVERSATIONS...
OUR NEPHEW, WHO WAS SUPPOSED TO VISIT US FROM FARAWAY CLAFTON, WON'T BE HERE TONIGHT! HE SENT WORD HE'S ILL!
AH--JUST THE BREAK I NEED! THAT MAN'S THE ONE WHO TRIED TO HELP THAT POOR FISHERMAN! HE AND HIS WIFE MUST BE KIND PEOPLE!

SHORTLY AFTER, WHEN THE REQUEST HAS BEEN MADE...
INDEED, CHILD, ALAN AND I WILL BE PROUD TO BECOME YOUR ADOPTED PARENTS! AND DON'T WORRY...WE'LL PROTECT YOUR SECRET!
HERE--TRY THESE ON! I BOUGHT THEM WHEN I HEARD MY NEPHEW WAS COMING!

SO, 800 YEARS IN THE PAST, SUPERBOY ADOPTS A NEW SECRET IDENTITY--THAT OF CLARK BRENT...
THESE OLD-FASHIONED SPECTACLES MAKE ME LOOK SILLY--BUT I NEED THEM TO PRESERVE MY SECRET!
WHY, YES, SON... WE NEED SOME WATER! THE WELL IS A HALF-MILE DOWN THAT PATH!
NOW--IS THERE ANYTHING I CAN DO AROUND THE HOUSE?

BUT WHY WALK A HALF-MILE WHEN THIS UNDERGROUND STREAM MAKES RUNNING WATER SO CONVENIENT? ANY OTHER CHORES FOR ME?
IT... IT'S INCREDIBLE!
WE...ER...NEED SOME FIREWOOD, SON... TO HEAT THE WATER!

WHY BOTHER WITH A FIRE? I'LL JUST RUB THESE OLD HORSE-SHOES TOGETHER GENTLY AT SUPER-SPEED...

...AND NOW THAT THEY'RE GLOWING WITH HEAT FROM THE FRICTION, I TOSS THEM INTO THE WATER, AND THERE YOU ARE!
OUR SON...OH, HOW PROUD I AM, ALAN!
SSSSSS...

LATER THAT EVENING...
MY NEPHEW WAS SUPPOSED TO HELP IN THE STORE A BIT AFTER SCHOOL, LAD, AND I WAS WONDERING IF...
YOU BET I CAN...ER... DAD! JUST GET ME BEHIND A COUNTER AND WATCH MY STUFF! BACK HOME, I HELP IN THE STORE EVERY DAY!

NEXT DAY, AS CLARK "BRENT" ATTENDS CLASS AT THE LOCAL SCHOOL...
SIT NEXT TO CEDRIC, BRENT...BACK THERE!
CRAZY CEDRIC? HE LOOKS BRIGHT ENOUGH TO ME--ONLY SCARED! WONDER WHAT'S ON HIS MIND, AND HOW THAT RING HE'S WEARING GOT ON TO THAT MYSTERIOUS IMAGE OF ME?
HA-HA! TEACHER IS PUTTING BRENT NEXT TO CRAZY CEDRIC!

THEN...
WE'LL START OUR LESSONS WITH YOU, BRENT! DRAW A PICTURE OF THE WORLD, ON THE BLACK-BOARD!
HMM...I THINK I KNOW HOW TO ANSWER IN SUCH A WAY THAT IT'LL MAKE IT EASY FOR ME TO STRIKE UP A FRIENDSHIP WITH CEDRIC!

AND WHEN CLARK PERFORMS HIS EXERCISE...
DON'T YOU KNOW THE WORLD IS FLAT--AS DEPICTED IN THIS DRAWING? HERE--WEAR THIS, YOU--YOU DUNCE!
HA-HA-HA!
I KNOW THEY THINK THE WORLD'S FLAT--BUT LET THEM LAUGH AT ME... IT'S JUST WHAT I WANT!
DUNC

DON'T MIND THE RIDICULE, BRENT! IT...IT'S NOT SO BAD ONCE YOU GET USED TO IT!
JUST AS I THOUGHT! MISERY LOVES COMPANY--AND POOR CEDRIC IS ALL TOO EAGER TO FIND SOMEONE HE CAN HELP! HE'S SURE TO CONFIDE IN ME NOW!

LATER, DURING RECESS, AS THE TWO LONELY LADS LUNCH TOGETHER...
HA-HA! CRAZY CEDRIC AND CLARK THE DUNCE! A GOOD PAIR!
WHY DO THEY CALL YOU "CRAZY CEDRIC"?
IT'S BECAUSE STRANGE CREATURES VISIT ME IN THE WOOD WHERE I LIVE...DRAGONS--AND UNICORNS! NO ONE ELSE SEES THEM--SO THEY SAY THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH MY MIND!

BUT YOU BELIEVE ME, DON'T YOU?
WHY...ER... SURE I DO, CEDRIC!
POOR KID... THERE ARE NO SUCH THINGS! BUT HOW CAN MY FATE BE TIED IN WITH THAT OF THIS STRANGE, TWISTED BOY?

THAT AFTERNOON, AS CLARK LEAVES SCHOOL, HE READS A CHILLING NOTICE...
To All Inhabitants of Cantrus
Anyone harboring the traitorous lad known as Superboy, who defied one of his MAJESTY'S soldiers, will be put to DEATH!
WOW! I DON'T WANT ANYTHING TO HAPPEN TO MOM AND POP BRENT AFTER I'M GONE! BETTER TAKE EXTRA PRECAUTIONS TO PROTECT MY IDENTITY! HMM...THAT HEAP OF IRON SCRAP SHOULD COME IN HANDY!

AWHILE, LATER, AS CLARK ASSISTS HIS "FATHER" IN THE STORE...
JUST LIKE DAD'S GENERAL STORE, BACK IN SMALLVILLE, THOUGH THE MERCHANDISE IS SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT!
WHAT A LAD! IF ONLY HE COULD BE MY SON FOR ALL TIME!
YES, SIR...FIVE POUNDS OF FLOUR. I'LL GET IT FOR YOU AT ONCE!
NAILS

AT THAT MOMENT...
HE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE SUPERBOY--YET, HE'S THE ONLY STRANGER IN TOWN... AND IF I SECRETLY PROVE IT, HE'LL HAVE TO TAKE ME TO THE FAIR! HE'S NOT LOOKING NOW--THESE RIBBONS OVER THE NAILS SHOULD HELP ME FIND OUT!
CAREFUL, CLARK...THIS IS TOO MUCH LIKE HOME!
6

CLARK, WOULD YOU PLEASE MOVE THIS CASK OF...ER... RIBBONS OVER THERE, WHERE IT'S LIGHTER? I WANT TO SELECT ONE JUST THE RIGHT SHADE TO MATCH MY DRESS!
CERTAINLY!

AND AS CLARK LIFTS THE BARREL...
AHA--THAT PROVES IT! YOU ARE SUPERBOY! THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF POUNDS OF NAILS UNDER THOSE RIBBONS!
OHHH! DON'T TELL ME I'VE RUN INTO A 12TH CENTURY LANA LANG!

JUST THEN...
SO YOU THINK HE'S SUPERBOY, DO YOU? I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR THE WRETCH WHO DEFIED MY SOLDIER! SEND AN ARROW AT HIM, GUARD! IF IT BOUNCES OFF, HE'S THE ONE WE WANT!
B-BUT AN ARROW WILL BOUNCE OFF ME!
WHAT'S THIS? IS CLARK ADMITTING HIS IDENTITY AS SUPERBOY?

SWIFTLY, THE ARROW SPEEDS TOWARD ITS MARK, AND...
THERE IS OUR PROOF! SEIZE HIS FATHER AT ONCE!
B-BUT WAIT--I WANT TO SHOW YOU SOMETHING!
NO! NO! PLEASE!

I...I'M WEARING THIS NEW TYPE OF ARMOR MY FATHER MADE--TO PROVE THAT ARROWS BOUNCE OFF, SO THAT PEOPLE WILL BUY IT!
BEING THE ONLY STRANGER IN TOWN, I SUSPECTED I'D BE PUT TO THE TEST! THAT SCRAP IRON MOLDED INTO A SUIT OF ARMOR, PROTECTED ME IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE!

AND IN THIS BARREL--SEE?... NOTHING BUT RIBBONS!
OH...I'M SO GLAD I WAS WRONG!
COME--LET US SEEK ELSEWHERE!
BY EXERTING SUPER-PRESSURE AGAINST THE SIDES, I'M SQUEEZING THE NAILS INTO A SOLID MASS SO THAT THEY CAN'T FALL OUT!
HOW CAN THIS PUNY OAF BE SUPERBOY?

LATER, WHEN CLARK IS ALONE, AN OMINOUS SHOUT RINGS THROUGH THE STREET...
CRAZY CEDRIC! HE'S BEEN TAMPERING WITH THE NETS! SEIZE HIM!
CEDRIC IN TROUBLE AGAIN? I'D BETTER SEE WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT! HA, HA... FIRST TIME I'VE HAD TO REMOVE TWO LAYERS OF OUTER CLOTHING IN ORDER TO SWITCH TO SUPERBOY!

TO PRISON WITH HIM!
NAY--TO THE MADHOUSE!
POOR CEDRIC! THEIR TAUNTS MUST HAVE MADE HIM DESPERATE!
BUT THE DRAGON--HE ORDERED ME TO BURN THE NETS!
OH, WHAT'S THE USE? I MUST BE MAD... PERHAPS IT IS BETTER TO LOCK ME UP!
HMM... I WONDER...? PEOPLE WHO ARE MENTALLY UNBALANCED DON'T USUALLY ADMIT IT!--NOT EVEN TO THEMSELVES! MAYBE THERE IS SOMETHING TO CEDRIC'S STORY... BUT THE ONLY WAY FOR ME TO FIND OUT IS BY GETTING HIM FREE AGAIN!
WAIT, EVERYBODY! WILL YOU LET CEDRIC GO FREE IF I HELP YOU CATCH MORE FISH THAN YOU'VE EVER CAUGHT BEFORE?
BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! CEDRIC BURNED ALL OUR NETS!
LET SUPERBOY TRY! IT IS BETTER THAN AROUSING THE KING'S WRATH AGAIN!
INSTANTLY, SUPERBOY DIVES DEEP INTO THE SEA, WHERE...
BY TWISTING AND TURNING, I'LL CREATE A WHIRLPOOL-LIKE CURRENT THAT WILL PULL THE FISH IN MY WAKE!
NOW TO DRILL THROUGH THE EARTH AND BORE A CHANNEL FOR THE FISH-FILLED WATERS TO FOLLOW! WHEN I BREAK THROUGH THE SURFACE OF THE LAND, IN THE VILLAGE...
...I'LL BE FOLLOWED BY A WATERSPOUT FULL OF FISH!
HELP YOURSELVES, EVERYBODY!
FISHING ON DRY LAND! IS THERE ANYTHING HE CAN'T DO?

LATER, AS SUPERBOY ACCOMPANIES CEDRIC TO HIS HUT...
HELLO, CEDRIC! I'VE BEEN AWAITING YOUR RETURN!
YOU SEE, SUPERBOY? DO YOU STILL THINK I'M MAD?
NO, CEDRIC, YOU'RE SANE, ALL RIGHT! ONLY IT'S TOO BAD YOU WEREN'T ABLE TO SEE, BEFORE, WHAT I'M ABLE TO SEE NOW, WITH MY X-RAY VISION!
REACHING INSIDE THE "DRAGON'S" MOUTH, THE BOY OF STEEL PERFORMS A DELICATE OPERATION...
NO--NO! DO NOT HARM US! WE ARE ONLY FOLLOWING THE KING'S INSTRUCTIONS!
SO--THE KING'S BEHIND THIS, IS HE? GATHER SOME WOOD, CEDRIC... HIS MAJESTY IS GOING TO RECEIVE A DRAGON A LITTLE MORE REALISTIC THAN THIS PHONY HE SENT AFTER YOU!
SOON, AN AWESOME SIGHT RUMBLES THROUGH THE VILLAGE...
THE GOOD OLD INDIAN TRICK OF RUBBING STICKS TOGETHER CREATES ALL THE FLAMES WE NEED, AND-- OH... ER... EXCUSE ME, CEDRIC! YOU WOULDN'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT INDIANS YET!
LOOK--A DRAGON! CEDRIC WAS RIGHT!
MOMENTS LATER, IN THE PALACE...
NOW, KING ARMAND-- WHY DID YOU SEND A FALSE DRAGON TO TERRIFY CEDRIC?
A... A... REAL DRAGON!
SO CEDRIC ISN'T MAD AT ALL! YOU WERE TRYING TO MAKE ME THINK SO-- TO SAVE YOUR MISERABLE CROWN!
THAT'S WHY YOU TOLD ME TO WAIT AND SEE IF HE WAS FIT TO RULE, AFTER I FINALLY FOUND HIM THROUGH THE ROYAL RING HIS FATHER PLACED AROUND HIS NECK WHEN HE WAS A BABE!
I... I'LL KILL YOU!
NOT TODAY, YOUR EX-MAJESTY!
NOW, WHAT'S THIS ABOUT CEDRIC BEING KING?
IT'S TRUE! AN OLD SERVANT, WHO HAS SINCE LOST HIS WITS, FLED WITH THE INFANT CEDRIC AFTER HIS FATHER, THE KING DIED! AFTER SEARCHING FOR 16 YEARS, I FOUND HIM--AND ARMAND'S BEEN TRYING TO MAKE IT SEEM AS THOUGH THE LAD IS INSANE!
9

NEXT DAY, AS A JOYFUL POPULACE ACCLAIMS ITS NEW MONARCH...
LONG LIVE KING CEDRIC!
DOWN WITH ARMAND!
I OWE MY THRONE TO SUPERBOY--AND AS A SIGN OF MY THANKS, I GIVE HIM MY ROYAL RING!
AND THEY ALL LIVED HAPPILY EVER AFTER--BUT WHERE DOES THAT IMAGE OF ME COME IN?
THAT AFTERNOON, AS "CLARK BRENT" BIDS FAREWELL TO HIS "PARENTS"...
THANKS--FOR EVERYTHING... YOU--YOU'VE BEEN AS GOOD TO ME AS MY OWN PARENTS--IN THE 20TH CENTURY!
I...I KNOW YOU HAVE TO GO, CLARK, BUT I'M HAPPY FOR EVEN THE BRIEF PERIOD YOU WERE ABLE TO STAY WITH US!
DID YOU HEAR THE LATEST NEWS?
KING ARMAND HAS ESCAPED--AND HE VOWS TO SLAY YOUNG KING CEDRIC AS SOON AS SUPERBOY LEAVES!
OH, NO! I CAN'T STAY HERE FOREVER! HOW WILL I...? OF COURSE! THIS IS WHAT EXPLAINS THE IMAGE!
SECONDS LATER, DEEP IN THE EARTH...
A HOMEY LITTLE UNDERGROUND LAB--WITH ALL THE METALS I NEED TO MAKE A LONG-LASTING IMAGE OF MYSELF AND THE MECHANISMS NECESSARY TO GIVE IT THE APPEARANCE OF LIFE!
AFTERWARD, IN THE COURT OF KING CEDRIC...
YOU WON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT ARMAND ANY MORE, CEDRIC! I'M NEVER GOING TO LEAVE... IF ANYONE THREATENS YOU, JUST PUSH THAT BUTTON...
...AND I'LL ANSWER AT ONCE!
A SIMPLE MODERN ELECTRICAL MECHANISM ACTIVATES THE IMAGE--BUT IN THESE DARK DAYS, EVERYONE WILL THINK IT'S SUPERBOY, IN PERSON!
IT'S... IT'S WONDERFUL! THE VERY SIGHT OF YOU WILL TERRIFY ARMAND... AND HE'LL NEVER GUESS IT'S JUST AN IMAGE!
SOME TIME LATER, WHEN SUPERBOY RETURNS TO SMALLVILLE...
HMMPH! YOU'VE BEEN GONE FROM SMALLVILLE ALL DAY--AND SO HAS CLARK KENT! I'M GETTING IDEAS ABOUT YOU!
WHEW! THIS IS WHERE I CAME IN! WOMAN'S CURIOSITY IS ONE THING THAT HASN'T CHANGED MUCH THROUGH THE AGES!
PHOOEY
The End